

AP Lit Summer Reading 2024

Required Reading:

1. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster

We'd love for you to have a copy of this text, but if circumstances prevent it, here are links to its PDF:

- <https://mseffie.com/assignments/professor/How%20to%20Read%20Literature%20like%20a%20Professor%202nd.pdf>
- <https://www.sps186.org/downloads/basic/350289/HowToReadLiteratureLikeAProfessor.pdf>

2. Choose ONE novel from this list (or go crazy and read more, then pick one!):

<i>Demon Copperhead</i>	Kingsolver	A retelling of Dickens' David Copperfield
<i>Crime and Punishment</i>	Dostoevsky	Classic Russian novel about a man who decides to play God
<i>The Orphan Master's Son</i>	Jackson	A family inside enigmatic North Korea – 2013 Pulitzer Prize
<i>Emma</i>	Austen	If you enjoyed <i>Clueless</i> , here's the original script.
<i>Beloved</i>	Morrison	A baby ghost creates the re-memory of slavery - Nobel Prize
<i>Midnight's Children</i>	Rushdie	Telepathic children born on India's Independence day
<i>Lincoln in the Bardo</i>	Saunders	Novel about the space between life and death; also Abe Lincoln
<i>Madame Bovary</i>	Flaubert	Be careful what you wish for.
<i>The Poisonwood Bible</i>	Kingsolver	Missionary family in Africa in the 1950s
<i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i>	Paton	Two families, one African, one white, in South Africa
<i>Love in the Time of Cholera</i>	Garcia Marquez	Magic Realism from the Master and Nobel Prize winner
<i>Ceremony</i>	Silko	Native American heritage heals traumatized war veteran
<i>The Awakening</i>	Chopin	19th century woman rebels against traditional female role
<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>	Wilde	Dark satire about wealth, class, and beauty
<i>The Kite Runner</i>	Hosseini	Two Afghani boys, politics, loyalty, and dueling kites
<i>The Joy Luck Club</i>	Amy Tan	First generation immigrants deal with mother/daughter issues
<i>The God of Small Things</i>	Roy	Brilliant child tells story of twins in a family in India
<i>Middlesex</i>	Eugenides	Born twice, first as a girl in 1960 and then as a boy in 1974
<i>The Goldfinch</i>	Tartt	Boy keeps a small famous painting -2014 Pulitzer Prize
<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	Dickens	A short Dickens. The French Revolution. It's awesome.
<i>Alias Grace</i>	Atwood	Girl convicted of double murder; based on true 19 th c. event
<i>All the Pretty Horses</i>	McCarthy	A love story set in the 50s amidst the backdrop of the Cowboy West
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Bronte	19 th century governess finds secret in the attic. It's awesome.
<i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i>	Adichie	Story of the Nigerian Civil War told through 3 sets of eyes
<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i>	Doerr	World War II drama, a blind girl, a young Nazi, and a magic stone
<i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>	Rhys	Acclaimed prequel to <i>Jane Eyre</i> about the secret's origin
<i>Klara and the Sun</i>	Ishiguro	Dystopian tale of artificial intelligence and robots
<i>Station Eleven</i>	St John Mandel	Global pandemic leads to a world without technology
<i>Ma Rainey's Black Bottom</i>	Wilson	Tension between a Black singer, her band, and her producers
<i>Less</i>	Greer	An author's comic journey to avoid his ex's wedding
<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	Atwood	Dystopian patriarchy in a post-fertility world
<i>Leave The World Behind</i>	Alam	A family in a vacation house confronts the apocalypse
<i>The Haunting of Hill House</i>	Jackson	Ghosts inhabit a family's dream home
<i>Purple Hibiscus</i>	Adichie	A young woman's coming of age in Nigeria
<i>Transcendent Kingdom</i>	Gyasi	Neuroscience grad student grapples with life and family issues
<i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i>	Diaz	Nerdy guy tries to find love despite everything
<i>The Nickel Boys</i>	Whitehead	Racism and institutionalized violence in a Florida reform school
<i>Everything I Never Told You</i>	Ng	A mysterious death and social/racial intrigue in Ohio
<i>The Sympathizer</i>	Nguyen	A North Vietnamese spy is embedded in a community in the US
<i>Never Let Me Go</i>	Ishiguro	Scientific mystery in a school where not all is as it seems

You will receive your summer reading assignments on the first day of school. Please read and annotate/take notes on both texts before the first day.

Questions? Email Eric Rovie eric.rovie@gcpsk12.org or Dana Kling dana.kling@gcpsk12.org